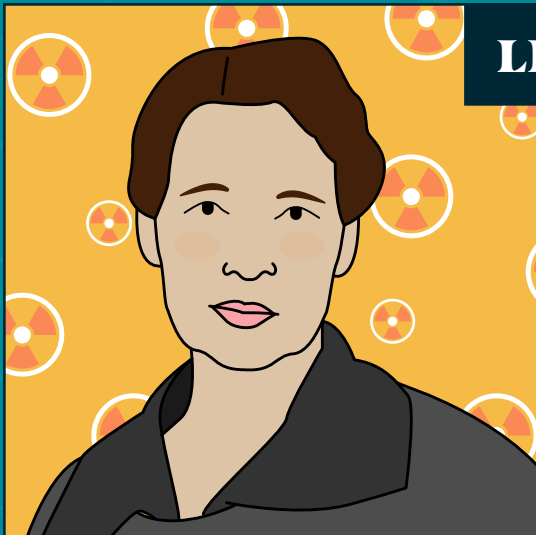


Historical Women IN SCIENCE

Throughout history, countless women working within science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine (STEMM) have made groundbreaking discoveries that have revolutionized our understanding of these fields.

In honor of International Day of Women and Girls in Science, we present a shortlist of women in STEMM who – despite not receiving a lot of recognition – made a significant impact.

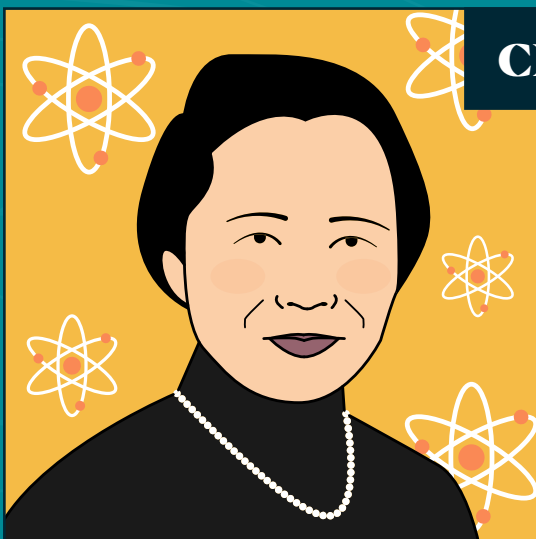


LISE MEITNER

1878–1968

Referred to as the “Mother of Nuclear Power”, Lise Meitner earned a doctorate degree in 1906 after studying physics at the University of Vienna.

She later teamed up with chemist Otto Hahn, with the most notable of the duo’s discoveries including nuclear fission. Hahn was awarded a Nobel Prize in 1944 for this work, however Meitner was not recognized for her role, despite being regarded by many as an instrumental scientist in the field.

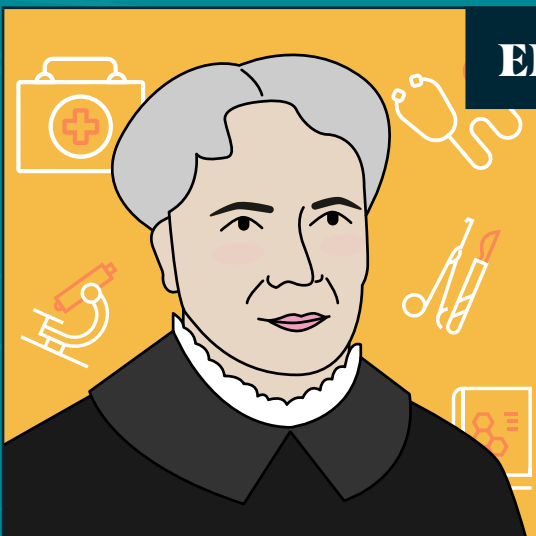


CHIEN-SHIUNG WU

1912–1997

Dubbed “The First Lady of Physics”, Chien-Shiung Wu was a nuclear physicist who contributed to the Manhattan Project, during World War II, and earned many accolades throughout her career.

Wu worked alongside two male theoretical physicists – Tsung-Dao Lee and Chen Ning Yang – to disprove the hypothetical law of [conservation parity](#). In 1957, both of her colleagues received a Nobel Prize for this work, with Wu’s contributions remaining unrecognized. When reminiscing on this at an MIT symposium in 1984, she remarked, “I wonder whether the tiny atoms and nuclei, or the mathematical symbols, or the DNA molecules have any preference for either masculine or feminine treatment.”



ELIZABETH BLACKWELL

1821–1910

The first woman in America to receive a medical degree from New York’s Geneva Medical College in 1849.

She spent her life fighting against discrimination and championed medical education and careers for women in medicine, establishing the New York Infirmary for Women and Children in 1857, and a medical college in New York in 1868.

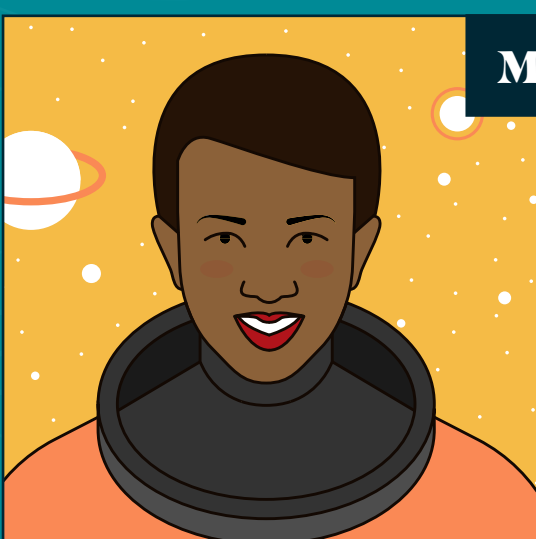


KATHARINE BLODGETT

1889–1979

A pioneer in surface chemistry and engineering, Katharine was the first woman to earn a doctorate from Cambridge University in the UK, and the first female scientist at the General Electric research lab.

Katharine developed the first system for non-reflective glass, and improved lenses used for cinematography. During the war she worked to improve the effectiveness of smoke screens and the development of a device to measure humidity significantly impacted the field of meteorological sciences.



MAE JEMISON

1956–PRESENT

As the first African-American woman to reach space, Jemison is an accomplished scientist. After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from Stanford and a medical degree from Cornell, she served as a medical officer for the Peace Corps in Sierra Leone and Liberia before transitioning to NASA’s astronaut training program in 1987.

Following a year of training, she became the first African-American woman astronaut, working as a science mission specialist — a role that required her to conduct crew-related scientific experiments on the space shuttle. In 1992, she became the first African-American woman to travel into space.